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MORNING PAPERS : THURSDAY, 14TH APRIL, 1949  
EVENING PAPERS : THURSDAY, 14TH APRIL, 1949  
BROADCASTING STATIONS: MIDNIGHT, 13TH APRIL, 1949

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS, FEBRUARY, 1949  
Rise in Employment during February.

The number of wage and salary earners in employment, exclusive of rural workers and female private domestics, rose by 13,800, or 0.6 per cent. during February, 1949, to 2,423,100 persons (1,763,700 males and 659,400 females), the highest yet recorded.

#### CHANGES IN STATE FIGURES

The number of persons in employment rose in all States except Western Australia. Female employment showed a similar trend, while male employment rose in all States except South Australia and Western Australia.

#### CHANGES IN INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

Total employment rose in all industrial groups with the exception of Commerce, Health Services, Entertainment, etc., and Personal Service. The greatest numerical increase was in factory employment which rose by 6,700 (2,500 males and 4,200 females). Although transport industries as a whole rose by 700 there was a fall of 600 (all males) in the number employed in Shipping and Stevedoring. In the Commerce group employment in wholesale trade rose by 1,500, but the numbers employed in primary produce dealing and retail trade declined by 1,900 resulting in a net decrease of 400 of whom 100 were males and 300 were females.

#### FACTORY EMPLOYMENT

Total employment increased in most factory classes but decreases took place in the manufacture of bricks, pottery and glass, textiles and knitted goods, musical instruments and miscellaneous manufactures. There were decreases in male employment in all these classes and also in clothing and skin and leather manufactures. Female employment increased in all classes except the manufacture of jewellery, watches, etc., and musical instruments and miscellaneous manufactures.

#### INCREASE IN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

Government employment rose by 4,600 during February, 1,200 of the increase being in employees of Commonwealth Authorities, 2,600 in employees of State Governments, and 800 in employment by local government authorities.

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